

Progress of Balkan Races

Their Characteristics and Antecedents—Amazing Development of Bulgarians, Americans of the Near East.

Advance Made by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lost Turkish Provinces—Light on the Present Situation.

THE political divisions, known as the Balkan states are five. North of the Danube lies Roumania, whose independence from Turkey was confirmed by the Berlin congress in 1878. Immediately south, on the other bank of the Danube, is Bulgaria, to the west of which lies Serbia—an independent kingdom created by the treaty of Berlin—occupying a position of vast strategic importance on the Danube, at the meeting of two great waterways, and commanding the main line of railway from western Europe to Constantinople. Southwest of Serbia is the little principality of Montenegro, whose independence from Turkey was assured by the congress of Berlin. To the west, about the head of the Adriatic and between the river Drave and the coast, are the territories known as Bosnia and Herzegovina, officially described as Turkish provinces, though, by the treaty of Berlin, placed under the Austro-Hungarian government for administration and military occupation. Austria-Hungary has decreed the annexation of these provinces. The population consists of Moslem boys—Serbians who adopted Islam in order to be assured of privileges—and Christian peasants, almost exclusively members of the Orthodox Greek church in Bosnia, but, to a considerable extent, Roman Catholics in Herzegovina. It is not unusual, however, to find families seeking to make friends with Mammon and righteousness by dividing their members between the Moslems and the Christians.

Bulgaria was conquered by the Turks in 1396 and for 500 years remained part of the Ottoman empire. It was constituted an autonomous principality by the Berlin treaty in 1878, semi-independence having been recognized by the Turks in the treaty of San Stefano, signed with the Russians a few months earlier in the same year. Prince Alexander of Battenberg was elected prince of Bulgaria in April, 1879. He totally defeated the Servians at the battle of Silivritza in November, 1885, and in the next year came the union of Bulgaria with eastern Roumelia. Then followed the abdication of Prince Alexander owing to Russian pressure and the election of Prince Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg in 1887.

The Near East Americans.

In the last twenty years the progress of Bulgaria has been amazing—American, indeed, in its rapidity and its thoroughness. The capital, Sofia, in the early eighties was a collection of mean buildings and filthy streets. Now it is a fine modern city, with well paved streets, pleasant parks and beautiful buildings, with a population of nearly 100,000 inhabitants.

During the same period the exports and imports have increased by over 1,200 per cent, the exports including grains, attar of roses, silk and tobacco. There is a public elementary school in every village and a secondary school in every town of 10,000 inhabitants. Sofia and the other cities possess excellently equipped hospitals, and the state savings bank receives \$400,000 deposits every month.

Generally it may be said that Bulgaria is a nation of peasant farmers. The country is divided into small holdings, and the people are as hardworking and earnest as small farmers generally are. It is quite natural that so determined and so progressive a people should possess ambitions, and certainly Bulgarian ambitions have been for many years a most fertile cause of Balkan unrest.

The Bulgarian desires the formation of a great Bulgaria which will include Macedonia. The Greeks, and with them the Serbs, are as bitterly opposed to this as are the Turks, and when one remembers that in the Balkans assassination and massacre are necessary parts of political propaganda the western European may have some idea of the origin of the horrors that from time to time occur.

The patriotic Bulgarian is continually hearing voices calling to him from Macedonia to come over and help them. Macedonia is not only inhabited by Mohammedans and Christians always ready at the shortest notice to massacre each other, but the Christians are divided into Greeks, Servians and Bulgarians, who mutually hate each other rather more than they all hate the Turk.

Bulgaria's Big Army.

The Bulgarian army is certainly one of the best, if not the best, of the smaller armed forces of Europe. After the formation of the principality of 1878 Russian officers held all the higher posts in the Bulgarian army until

they were suddenly withdrawn by the czar on the very eve of the war between Bulgaria and Serbia in 1885. Even under these difficult circumstances the Bulgarian army demonstrated the quality of its material by utterly defeating the Servians.

The peace strength of the Bulgarian army is roughly estimated at 53,000 men, but on a war footing it is calculated that the enormous fighting force of at least 375,000 can be placed in the field. It is believed by the Bulgarian authorities that they can mobilize their army, ready for war, in about a fortnight. It is certain that mobilization in Bulgaria will take a shorter time than in any of the neighboring countries.

Every Bulgarian, whatever be his religion, is liable to military service. There are the usual exemptions from service. Mohammedans, whose numbers are yearly decreasing, may claim not to serve on payment of \$100, which they can seldom afford. Liability for service begins at the age of eighteen and lasts till forty-six. Men going into the infantry remain two continuous years with the colors and then pass for eighteen years into the reserve. Recruits for the other arms of the service spend three years with the colors and sixteen in the reserve. After completing his service in the active army the Bulgarian passes into the landwehr, where he remains until the age of forty-six.

Mannlicher Firearms Used.

The country is divided into nine divisional districts, with headquarters at various strategic centers. Each district supplies a division in peace time, which expands in war to an army corps of two divisions. Each division consists of eight battalions of infantry and a regiment of artillery, and six of the divisions have each a regiment of divisional cavalry. Every battalion has in peace time four companies. In war each company becomes a battalion, so that every battalion in peace time becomes four battalions in war. The expansions due to the very long period of time which the Bulgarian spends in the reserve are very large, and the success of the system must very largely depend upon the manner and rapidity with which mobilization can be effected and on the quality of the reserve of officers, on whom so large a share of the command must fall. The infantry is armed with the 315 Mannlicher magazine rifle and short bayonet.

The Bulgarian army possesses about fifty-five batteries of field artillery, nine batteries of mountain guns, six batteries of howitzer guns and three battalions of fortress artillery. The artillery has recently been rearmed with new French Creusot guns.

The cavalry of Bulgaria consists of three squadrons of household troops. Besides these squadrons there is a cavalry division of about 2,500 men. Each divisional district is supposed, in addition, to have a regiment of cavalry, but these are not at present all formed. The cavalry is armed with the Mannlicher carbine and saber.

Land of Great Beauty.

The latest estimate of the population of Bosnia places it at 2,000,000 people. Under Turkish rule no record was kept of the population. Of these more than about 600,000 are Turks, 700,000 Greeks, 494,124 Roman Catholics, 9,311 Jews, 5,000 Protestants and representatives of other religions.

Bosnia and Herzegovina are situated in the northwest corner of the Balkan peninsula, bounded on the north by the Slavonian province of Austria-Hungary, on the east by Serbia, Turkey and Montenegro and on the south and west by Dalmatia and the Adriatic sea. The country is mountainous, being broken by high peaks, deep gorges, ridges, beautifully wooded hills, winding streams and rich alluvial basins which yield large crops of grain and are especially adapted to fruit. Sarajevo, the capital, has 60,000 inhabitants.

The same treaty of Berlin which gave to Serbia its independence also placed Bosnia and Herzegovina under the protection of Austria. Bosnia and Herzegovina were under Turkish rule from 1463 until 1878. During that period they practically disappeared from the current of civilization. Brigandage was a recognized profession. There were no railways and few wagon roads. Murder was not considered a crime, and robbery was as common as lying. Statistics claim that 8,000 to 10,000 people were murdered annually by officials and military guards.

Today crime is practically unknown in the two provinces. Railroads reach every corner of Bosnia. The people are prosperous and educated. Mem-

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KEEP YOUR BLOOD CLEAN

bers of the different faiths mix with each other freely and are tolerant of one another. There has never been a train robbery since the Austrians took hold. In 1900 there were only two homicides in all the land. The country is mountainous and very beautiful.

Odd Customs in Vogue.

Some of the customs of the people are peculiar. Separate courts have been established in places for the Austrians and Turks because it is not perjury for a Mohammedan to swear falsely against a Christian. They have also courts for the settlement of trifling differences in which lawyers are not allowed to interfere because that honorable profession is accused of encouraging litigation for the sake of the fees. Before the Austrian occupation this was a great evil. Almost the entire population was involved in suits. About twenty years ago a law was enacted limiting the number of lawyers to sixteen for the entire country.

Eighty-eight per cent of the population is engaged in farming and raising cattle, sheep and swine. Tobacco is an important crop and a government monopoly. In Sarajevo, the capital city, there are fine office buildings, churches, apartment houses, government structures and public institutions. The transformation of the people from a wild, lawless brood ever ready to kill, ignorant, vicious and lawless, into a well governed, prosperous, law abiding country is considered a remarkable example in administration. The benefits derived by Bosnia were also extended to Herzegovina.

The kingdom of Serbia is the most fertile and densely populated of the Balkan states. Like other Balkan states, its progress has been hindered by political strife. It has an area of 18,000 square miles, or little more than twice the size of New Hampshire. Its population is about 2,500,000, chiefly Serbs. Belgrade is the capital city. Serbia was the first of the Balkan states to achieve independence of Ottoman rule. It was first conquered by the Turks in 1389, was ceded to Austria in 1718 and retaken by Turkey in 1739. After suffering terribly from the desperate strife of the Karageorgevitch and Obrenovitch dynasties the province secured its full independence under the Berlin treaty of 1878. Serbia came prominently into public print in 1903, when King Alexander and his queen, whose reign was stained by such vice and crime that the other rulers refused to receive them, were assassinated.

Nation of Hardy Mountaineers.

Montenegro is an independent principality peopled with hardy mountaineers. It is situated in the Kara Dag, or Black mountains (whence the name Crnagora or Montenegro), with a narrow seaboard of about twenty-eight miles on the eastern shore of the Adriatic, north of the Turkish province of Albania. On the northwest it is contiguous to Herzegovina, under Austrian administration. The little principality is only a hundred miles long at its longest point, eight miles wide and has an area of about 3,650 square miles. It has a population of 227,000, of whom 13,000 are Mussulmans, 13,000 Roman Catholics and the remainder descendants of Servians who refused to recognize Turkish supremacy and took refuge at the end of the fourteenth century in the fastnesses of the Karst mountains, where they have since maintained their independence. The prevailing religion is that of the Greek church, although there is nominally no established church. Russian influence is dominant in the principality, which derives a part of its revenue and military supplies from Russia by direct contribution. Like Bosnia, agriculture and the raising of cattle and sheep are the chief occupations. Its independence was recognized at the Berlin conference, at which time its territory was almost doubled.

A Banquet

spread before you would do you no good if you couldn't eat. What good can food do a child when as soon as it enters its stomach it is eaten by worms. That's the reason your baby is ailing cross, pesty-faced and thin. Give it White Cream Vermifuge. It will expel the worms and act as a tonic for the child. Sold by Titusville Pharmacy and Banner Drug Store.

VERTEBRATE PROPELLER TEST

New Steamship Device Which Propels Ship Model at High Speed.

A group of yachtsmen, marine engineers and others recently witnessed a demonstration of the latest thing in marine propulsion, the vertebrate propeller, on the roof of a building in New York. It consists of three flat metal blades, each measuring 6 by 11 inches, hinged together, and operating under the middle of the boat with a fish tail motion in a trough or sluice formed by twin keels, which extend fore and aft to within a short distance of the stem and stern.

In a tank 104 feet long, 42 inches wide and holding water 22 inches deep floated a model of a battleship 13 feet long, 16 inches beam and about 8 inches draft, equipped with the new propeller. A half horsepower motor, installed in the boat alongside the engines, was supplied with direct electric current by six little wheels traveling on three overhead copper wires connected and controlled by a switch at one end of the tank.

At a signal the engineer turned on the power. Instantly the boat gathered headway, traversing the 100 foot tank in just nine seconds. Then by the simple turn of the switch she stopped as if a brake were applied, and in a moment, with her engines reversed, she was speeding back to the starting point, something that would have been impossible with an ordinary propeller, engineers say. It is declared that an ocean liner equipped with this device located amidships would not only be free from vibration, but the propeller, working always in solid water, would drive her at phenomenal speed with no danger of "racing."

Biggest Rug Made in Record Time.

The biggest rug ever woven was laid the other night on the floor of the palm room of a well known hotel in New York. It is 30 by 33 feet and was made on a special loom in Mafersdorfe, Bohemia. It cost \$6,000. It was delivered at the hotel exactly six weeks after it was ordered by cable, which is considered a record, as it was woven by hand. It is blue and gold with a maroon border.

A Frosty Philosopher.

I like a frosty mornin' when the wind sings on the way,
Comin' 'cross the mountains at the break-in' of the day.
The twichin' o' my j'intis is a most unfallin' sign.
They're tunin' up the fiddle for the boys to fall in line.

When the cabin fires look lively an' twinkle o'er the way,
It's then I have a feelin' good times have come to stay.
You can hear a whip-a-crackin' 'cross a clover field or two,
An' you think o' rides by moonlight with your sweetheart close to you.

Let old winter whistle! He brings the joys along.
Spring is rich an' rosy an' summer sweet with song—
Every season's good enough—but give me frost an' fall
An' keep time to the music an' swing your sweethearts all!

—Atlanta Constitution.

Cold Weather Advice

to all is to beware of coughs and colds on the chest; as neglected they readily lead to consumption, pneumonia or other pulmonary troubles. Just as soon as the cough appears treat it with Ballard's Horehound Syrup the standard cure of America. Use as directed—perfectly harmless. A cure and preventive for all diseases of the lungs. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by Titusville Pharmacy and Banner Drug Store.

A "Merry Widow" House.

Merriam, Kan., is to have a "Merry Widow" house. Jim Campbell, proprietor of the general store at Merriam is preparing to build a house of nature stone which is to cost \$3,000. "We call it a 'Merry Widow' house," said Mr. Campbell, "because the eaves will project beyond the walls such an unusual distance that in appearance it will resemble these 'Merry Widow' hats that the girls are wearing."

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Bad Symptoms.

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Notice of Application for Tax Deed Under Section 8 of Chapter 4888, Laws of Fla.

Notice is hereby given that E. B. Arnold, purchaser of tax certificate No. 114, dated the 1st day of July, A. D., 1901, has filed said certificate in my office, and has made application for tax deed to issue in accordance with law. Said certificate embraces the following described property situated in Brevard county, Florida, to-wit: Part of lots 1, 2, and 3 of sw 4, described in Deed Book H, page 232, section 30, tp. 28 south, range 38 east. The said land being assessed at the date of the issuance of such certificate in the name of W. O. Mount. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, tax deed will issue thereon on the 26th day of October, A. D., 1908.

Witness my official signature and seal this 25th day of September, A. D., 1908.
A. STEWART,
Clerk Circuit Court,
Brevard County, Florida.

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